



# The McPherson College SPECTATOR

Friday, Sept. 14, 1990  
Volume LXXV, No. 1  
Scholarship, Participation,  
and Service —  
for the 21st Century

## Now, that's HOT!

### Spec Staff -

Fall semester started with a sizzle.

"For one whole week I didn't sleep more than 30 minutes at a time because I woke up drenched in sweat," said one freshman woman.

### Sweating it out in Dotzour

Dotzour residents rounded up comforters, pillows, and alarm clocks and moved down to the air-conditioned lobby to sleep.

Equipment wore out, like students. "We've had to run our fans ever since we got here," said Jenny Gutsch, "and now when it rotates it makes a squeaking noise that keeps us awake—as if we could sleep anyhow!"

Maggie Van Goethem confirms: "Fans are on 24 hours a day."

Friday (Aug. 24) 100°
Saturday . . . 99°
Sunday . . . 103°
Monday . . . 105°
Tuesday . . . 106°
Wednesday 105°
Thursday . . . 100°
Friday . . . 105°

Cold showers? "I get out of a cold shower sweating," said Michelle Sleichter.

"You have to study with a fan blowing directly on you. And that blows your papers all over the room, and it leaves me with a headache," said Anita Ashlock.

### Froshfry in Fahnestock

Fahnestock third floor was like an oven. Fanny guys cranked up their fans, but it didn't always help, and it never helped enough.

On Monday the 27th the high was somewhere around 104 and relative humidity was 49 per cent.

This gives a temp/humidity index number of 92, on the border between miserably uncomfortable and physically dangerous. Tuesday was as bad.

Metzler residents took the opportunity to rub it in. "It was so cold in my room last night," one is reported to have said, "that I had to sleep with my blanket on."

Will Crago, a Fahnestock sophomore, responded, "Those wimps in Metzler think they're so cool because they've got air conditioning!"

Still Crago admits that the heat wave left him warmed up to the

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idea of equal air conditioning for all.

Student opinion seems generally to be: If everyone is paying for rooms at the same rate, it's unfair that some must take a beating from the heat while others have air conditioning.

### And MAC took some heat from the BPU

While students were taking a hammering from 100-degree-plus heat, Mac was facing a hot problem of its own.

The college, like most heavy electric users in the city, buys its supply on an "interruptible rate" basis from the city-owned Board of Public Utilities.

In return for a savings of about 7 per cent on its electric bill, Mac agrees to find ways to lower its requirements for power when the BPU is facing a demand-crisis.

During the last week in August (24-31), when afternoon highs were ranging from 98 to 106, McPherson BPU exercised its part of the bargain by calling local large consumers and asking them to cut back on demand.

BPU was itself in a bind, since it is a purchaser of power as well as a supplier, and its own rates were in danger of being forced up by the heavy call for power.

**Opinion seemed to be: If everyone pays the same for rooms, it's unfair that some must take a beating from the heat.**

Rates that the BPU pays to its suppliers, and the rates it charges its customers, are determined by measurements of peak demand during July and August, usually.

Abnormally high demand during measurement-time saddles consumers with higher rates for the whole year following, until the next measurement period.

Mac cut back on power consumption during the heat wave by

doing the only feasible thing: cutting back on air conditioning.

"Everyone in the city saved money for a whole year," said Jim Dodson, Vice President for Financial Services, "because big consumers like Mac College kept the city utility under its limit."

But it was a near thing. On one evening during the cut-back, the

**Retrofitting older campus buildings for air-conditioning would be "monumentally expensive." — Jim Dodson**

lights were inadvertently switched on at the sports field and the college's demand skyrocketed.

The BPU agreed to handle the problem in a way that keeps Mac's rate from being raised, but the agreement came only after some anxious negotiation by the college.

For a while Mac was looking at an extra \$600 per month on its light bill.

The BPU's main consideration in giving Mac a break was that the college has been cooperative in the past during demand-crises. Dodson says that both utilities, the BPU and Kansas Power and Light, are very cooperative with Mac.

### Just one of the burning questions being asked

What would it take to air-condition buildings like Dotzour?

Dotzour was built before there was air conditioning for buildings of its type, and a retro-fit would be "monumentally expensive," according to Dodson. A ballpark figure would be something like a third to a half a million dollars.

Installation of window-units would at least have to be preceded by a rewiring of the building, and the small units would be energy-inefficient.

Metzler Hall was retro-fit with air conditioning two years ago during renovation. Duct-work was already in place in Metzler, and there was basement space to house the chilling plant.

In fact, since the plant could be made to serve Metzler and Bitteringer both, there was considerable saving involved.

The retro-fit for Metzler cost Mac about \$40,000.



Photo by Rod Samuelson

**Comin' attcha! Jim MacKenzie racks 'em up for a new semester. The union was one of the few buildings where students could always count on getting relief from the suffocating heat.**

## Briefly noted

**A**rby's restaurant (2200 E. Kansas, McPherson) has purchased subscriptions to ten magazines for the Miller Library. The selection was made with a view towards supplying Mac students with information on the lighter side.

Available now for your pleasure and information are *Prevention, Downbeat, Bicycling, Skiing, Travel and Leisure, Automobile, Golf Digest, Food & Wine, Tennis, and Backpacker.*

**T**he Cross Country team opened their season on Saturday, Sept. 8 with the Hadley Hospital run in Fort Hays, KS. The women ran a four mile course and the men ran six.

Leading the men of Mac was Willie Marshall; Katrina Husong led the Lady Red. Other McPherson competitors were Justin Mitchell, Eric Hadley, Denise Kelly, Teresa Hess, Elizabeth Mecfessel, and Konni Nanninga.

"Over all, I was fairly impressed with our times," said Coach Dan Hoffman. "We were up against some really tough competition."

At last Saturday's meet in Wall Park in McPherson, Husong again took the lead among the Mac women competitors; Teresa Hess, Denise Kelly, and Elizabeth Mecfessel also competed. Among the Mac men, Marshall led again, and Mitchell and Hadley, as well as Jesse Martin and Brent Zamora, hustled for Mac.

Members of Community Against Sexual Assault (CASA) are preparing themselves for an eventful year. The first meeting was held on September 4, 1990. During that meeting, the topics of officer elections, meeting times, upcoming events and progress made over the summer were discussed.

The sponsor for CASA is Sharon Knechel, Vice President of Student Services. The officers for the 1990-91 school year are: Tracey Hughes, President; Laurale Snyder and Wendy Noyes, Vice Presidents; and Eric Ratzloff, Secretary/Treasurer. Meetings for the general public will be held monthly, with officer meetings taking place more often. The first officer meeting will be October 3, at 9:30 p.m., and the next general meeting will be October 10 (time to be announced).

This year, the Reader's Theatre Presentation on Date/Acquaintance Rape will have a different look as new members donate their time and talents to the program. The participants are Steve Hoover, Tracey Hughes, Shannan Kirchner, Tracy Parks, Eric Ratzloff, Laurale Snyder, and Tim Zook, with Sharon Knechel as Narrator, Tahnee Carlson as Stage Manager, and Rick Tyler as "The Beaver"

### A View from CASA

(a.k.a. Director). The Reader's Theatre will be performed on September 18 for the College Life classes, and on September 19 at Bethany College as a part of their Freshman Orientation program.

In addition, there will be other events designed to bring awareness to various aspects of sexual assault. On September 20, there will be a presentation by Marilyn Murray at the Prairie View Activity Center in Newton, Kansas. The title of her presentation is "No, Not Me, I Had a Happy Childhood". On September 21 the McPherson County Sheriff's Department will present a Rape Prevention Workshop at the Sports Center.

For more information about Marilyn Murray's presentation, contact David Valeta, Campus Minister. If you are interested in the September 21 workshop, contact Sharon Knechel. CASA will also sponsor a convocation concerning sexual assault on October 25. We are currently searching for materials for a possible film presentation.

During the summer CASA began to order books for a Special Collection soon to be incorporated into the resources of Miller Library. The books cover various topics, including child abuse, date/acquaintance rape, male sexual abuse, and lesbian battering. At present there are seventeen books to be contributed to the collection. In addition, there are handouts and pamphlets on the above mentioned subjects, as well as sexual harrasment, myths of sexual abuse, and tips on prevention.

There are many ideas about future events that are being considered. There are possibilities of the Reader's Theater being presented at the High School and at the Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center. These activities are being considered for later dates, possibly during next semester. Organizing an informational field trip to the Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center or to the Hutchinson Sexual Assault Center is another option. There are also the possibilities of having special workshops, guest speakers, and student presentations for the general public during our meetings.

Our organization is now entering its third year of existence on the McPherson College campus. We have accomplished a great amount during that time, for which the members and organizers can feel very proud. On a personal note, however, I would like to take this opportunity to ask for more student involvement, from men in particular.

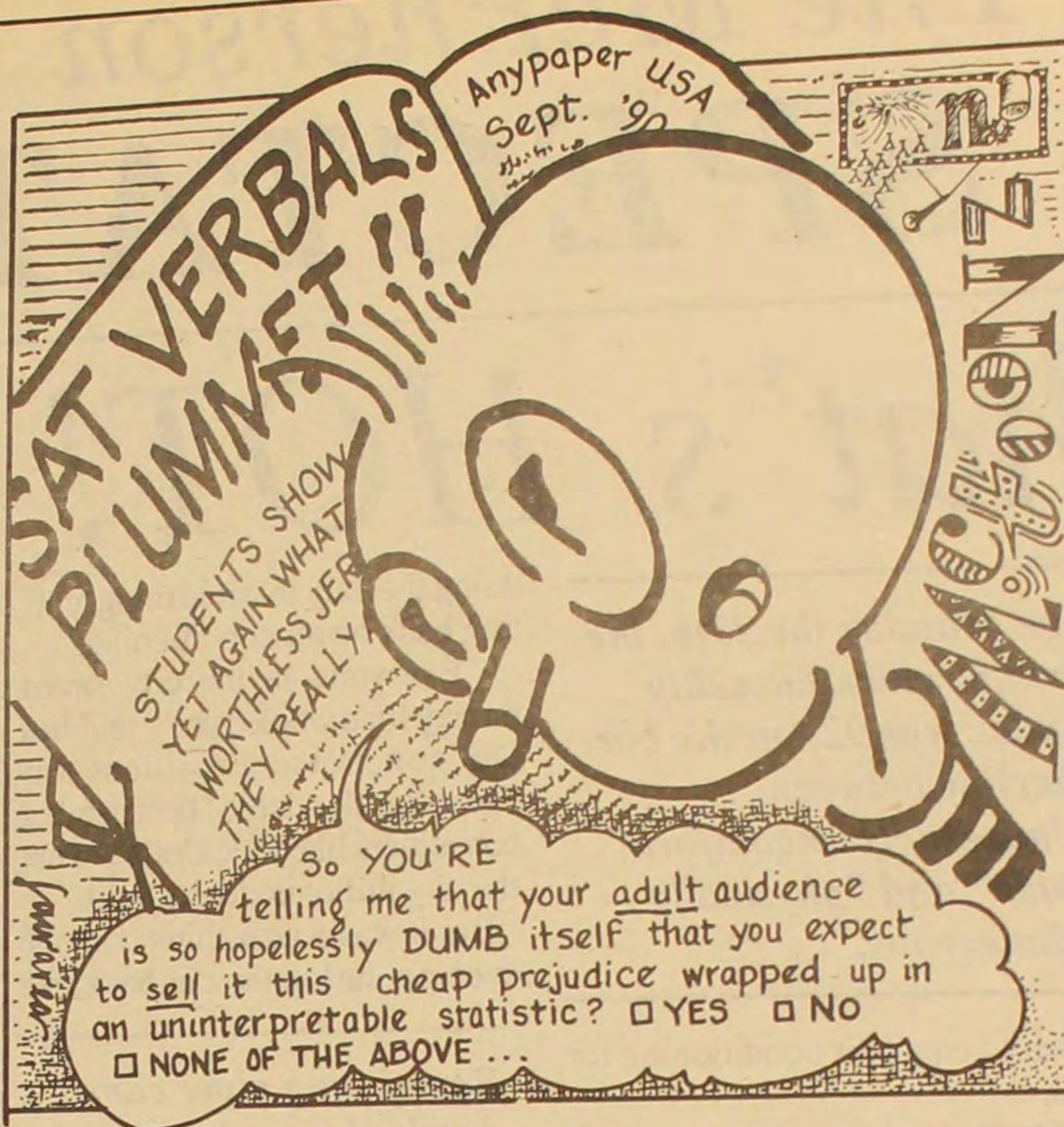
It is very easy to accept the attitude that men should not worry about sexual assault because it is a "woman's problem". What we all must come to realize is the fact that

**sexual assault is not a phenomenon that occurs only to women and small children.**

It is not something that happens only to women who "wear sexy outfits" or "go out at the wrong time of the night". It is a serious problem that will affect not only the victim/survivors, but also the secondary victims (those who are closest to the victim/survivor: family members, friends, lovers, and peers).

Information can help bring the subject of sexual assault to the surface, but it will also take active absorption of the information in order to bring about effective changes in attitudes. Please do not be afraid to ask sincere, honest questions about the issues. We cannot afford to ignore this problem any longer.

Tracey Hughes



### From the bad side of forty

How do people figure out what to be? I had a girlfriend once who, whenever we had a fight, behaved like a character from a TV soap opera. She would storm around, glaring and saying a lot of lying, hurtful things. It was frightening and sad to be around a person trapped in a script as dumb and as ethically corrupt as a TV soap opera. (Okay, I'm not saying what she thought of me, am I? Just suppose that she thought I was a miserable jerk, and that more often than not she was right.)

For years after Goethe published *The Sorrows of Young Werther*, fashionable young men went around falling into hopeless love affairs and then fashionably blowing their brains out over them, *à la* Werther. And I've had friends, too, who modeled themselves on characters from Virginia Woolf novels. You see little boys striking Masters of the Universe poses in grocery store aisles every day.

People make themselves up as they go along, that's my theory. They invent themselves, like a person invents a story. Mostly, too, they make themselves up out of bits and pieces of stories and personalities that they find lying around ready-made, and so they end up like a patchwork quilt of attitudes and habits.

In a culture as intensely commercial and as intensely anti-traditional as ours is, people make themselves up from TV, I imagine. What other versions of the world's possibilities are laid on as thick and glitzy as these are? I mean, they're designed to sell people stuff!

So it's depressing to see in the papers that young people read a good deal less now than they evidently once did. Because even if my friends from the Virginia Woolf novels were a little silly, at least they weren't predictable; and the author who created them was, whatever else, neither stupid nor venal.

Tom H.

## The McPherson College SPECTATOR

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### CONTESTS

Winning entries—and there'll be only one for each item numbered below, because we're short of cash, frankly—are worth five dollars each. Solutions to be submitted to Carolyn Coon (in writing!). Deadline: Sept. 21.

1. Dave Berry the humor columnist characterizes the S&L catastrophe as "pesky." It inspires us to a paraphrase of Winston Churchill: Never before have so many owed so much on account of so few. Readers are asked to submit their own word or short phrase which best sums up our national catastrophe.

2. Identify the persons: (a) His beef was Wellington. (b) A real cut-up in bed. (c) Made 'em stick around. (d) Angrily he called for more.

3. In 50 words or less describe your candidate for the most disgusting commercial currently running on TV.

By the way, Tim Zook won the \$5 prize for the question about the car race in the Summer Spectator. Congratulations, Tim! Why didn't you other guys even try?

## BUNK!



The SPECTATOR welcomes letters to the editor and articles of all other types from its readers, including photos and other graphic art. Material accepted for publication (apart from letters to the editor) is paid for at the rate of \$2 per item. If you have ideas for publishable material, come by the Spec office and let us help you however we can.

SEPTEMBER 23 • 1990

### Candlelight Vigils

in observance of



World Summit for Children  
Contact Shannan Kirchner  
Peace Awareness Project

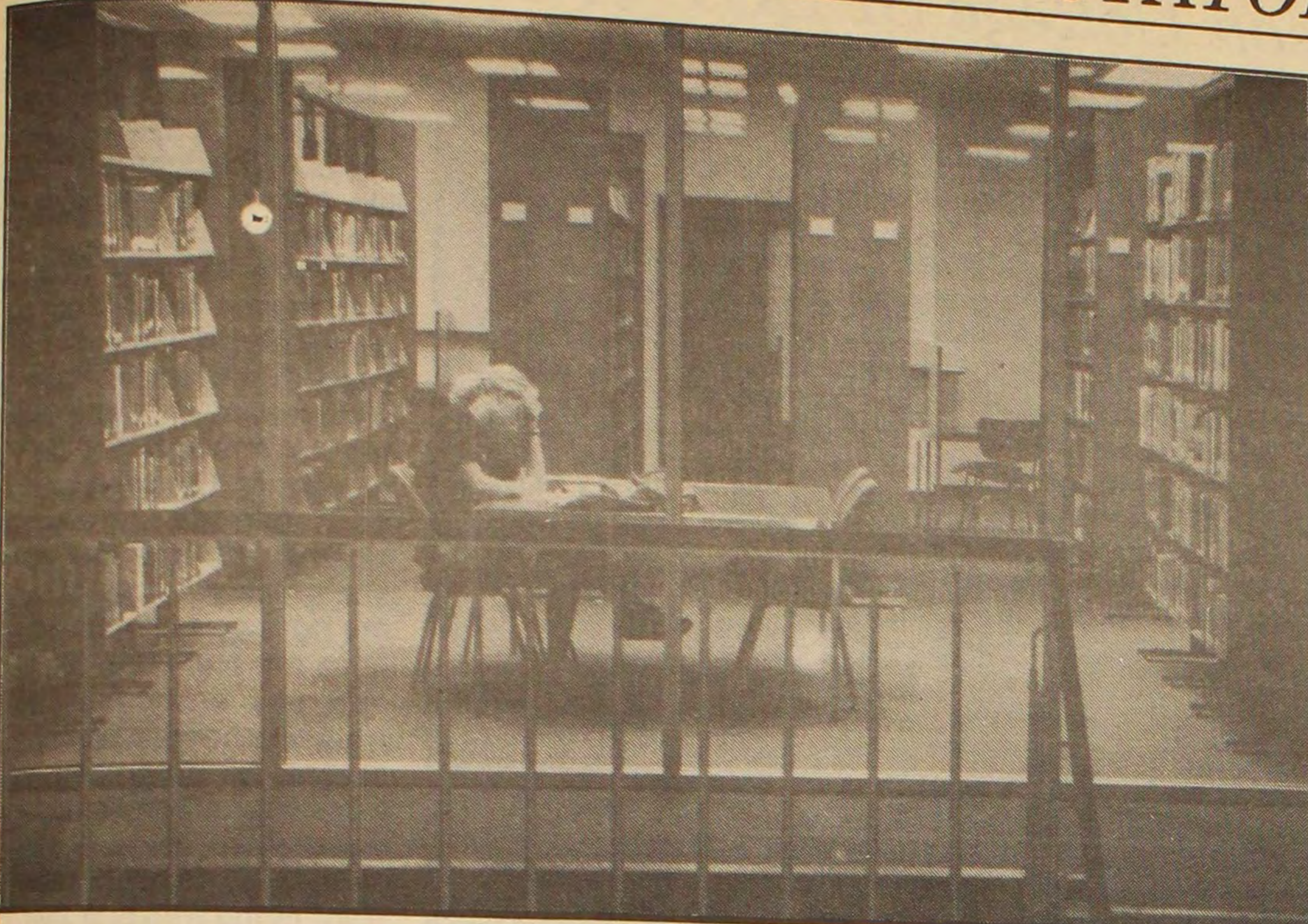


Photo by Rod Samuelson  
 Another place suffering students sought relief was the Miller Library. Arby's restaurant has recently helped make the library a more pleasant place by purchasing subscriptions to ten fun magazines. ( See related story, page one.)

## SAB calls for new membership, new ideas

Sharrie Grove

The Student Activities Board started off the year with freshman orientation activities.

Freshmen were divided into activity groups with their student mentors. There was a series of relays, including an egg-toss, a pingpong ball push, a toilet paper race, an orange relay, and a carrot run.

Members of the winning team included Brandon Watkins, Aaron Unruh, Tony Hazleton, Ryan Hamlin, Mike Garrison, Michon Fast, Jenny Gutsch, Carolina Martinez, Brian Holway, Eric Ratzloff, and Sheri Engler.

Their prize was a gift certificate from Braums.

Kim Merkey was the winner of the individual name game and she too received a certificate from Braums.

The SAB has several activities already planned for the remainder of the semester.

On Sunday, Sept. 23, it is sponsoring a trip to Worlds of Fun in Kansas City. There will be three buses leaving at 6:45 in the morning and returning to McPherson around 11:00 p.m.

Activities planned for the month of October include Homecoming events especially. Some ideas in the works are a return of the fun-

cycles, a bonfire, and shopping cart races.

Roller skating, bowling, and a Rocky Horror Picture Show for Halloween are some more ideas.

In December SAB will sponsor a formal dinner.

The Student Activities Board encourages anyone who has ideas to contribute to come and join us and be a part of the club. Meetings are held each week at 6:00 p.m. in the Student Union Basement.

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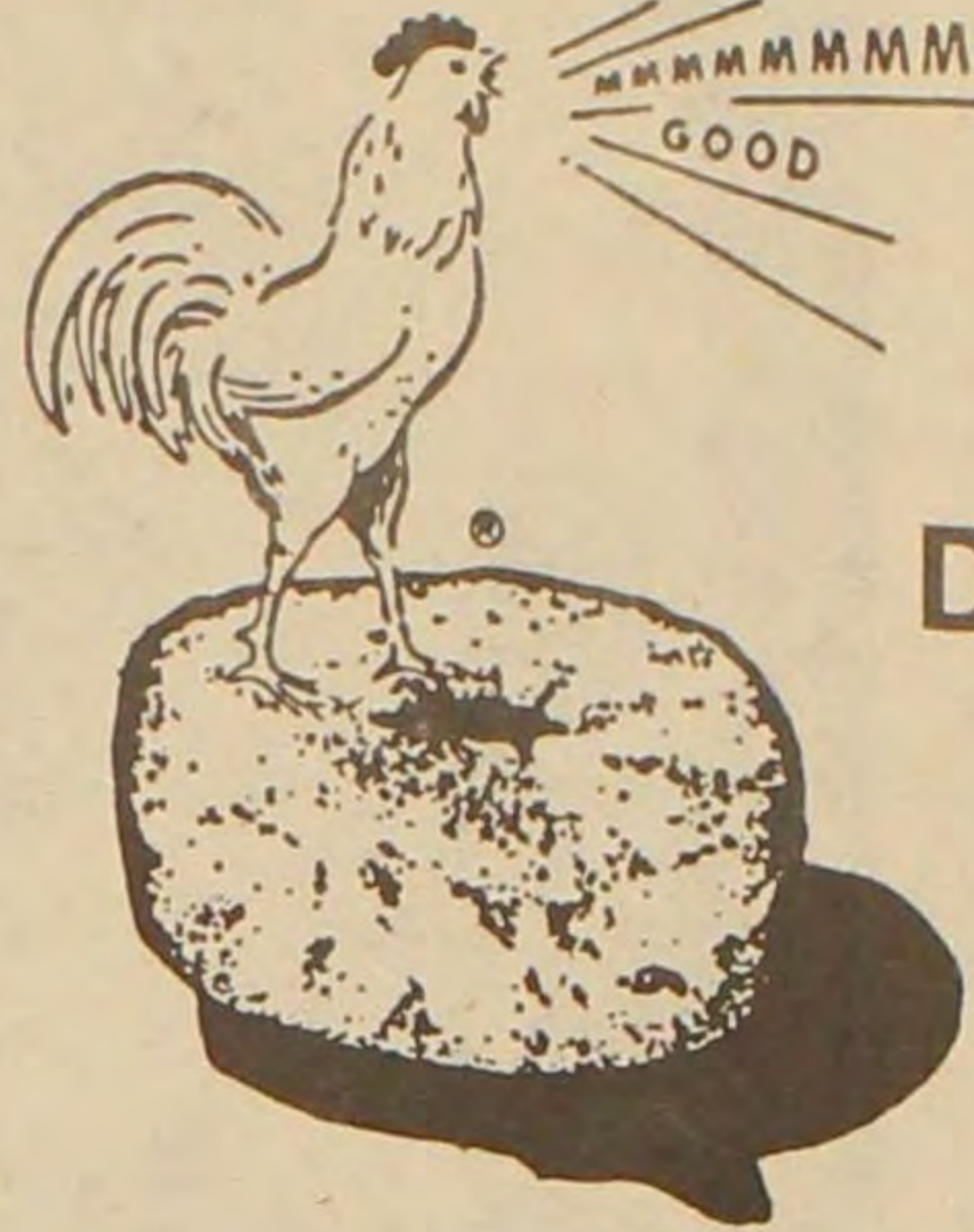


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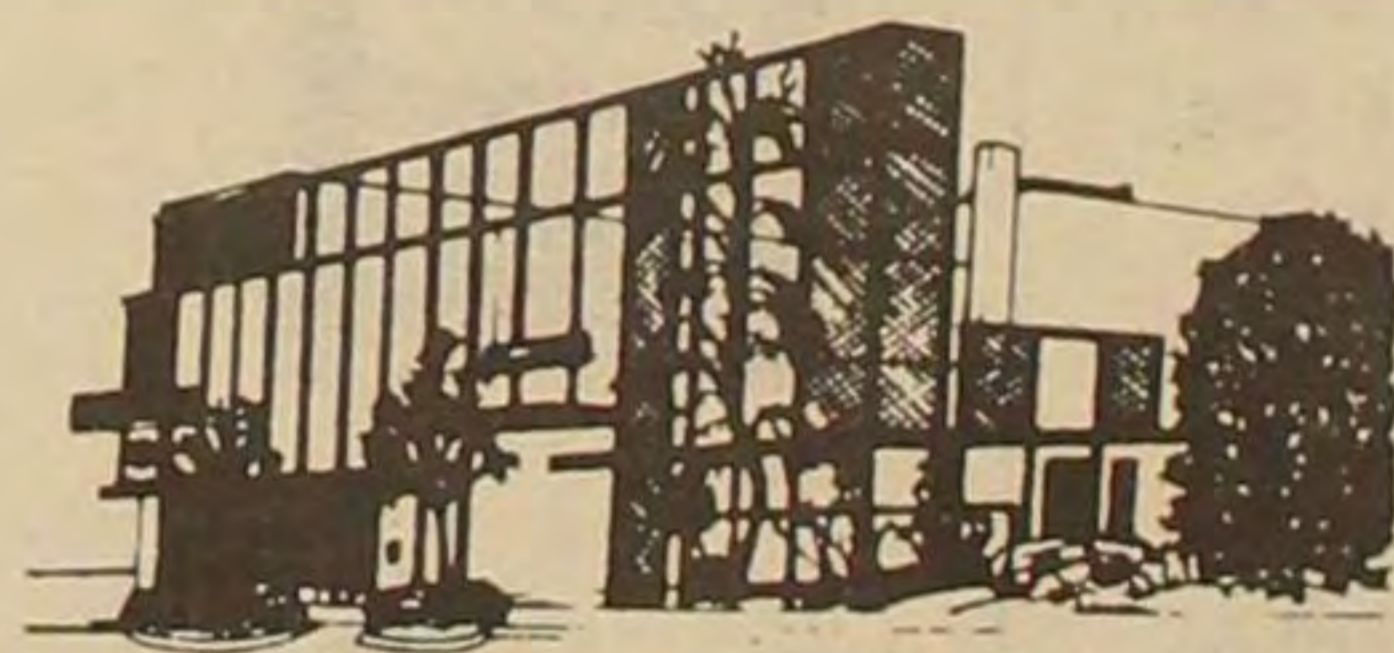
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### Cheap Thrills

**McPherson Farmers' Market.** 8 til noon on Saturdays, through October 20. at the Bank IV mall.

**McPherson Museum.** 1 to 5 Tue. thru Sun. 1130 E. Euclid. free.— *Worlds of old-time stuff, plus a giant ground sloth!*

**Goessel Mennonite Heritage Museum.** 10 to 5 Tue. thru Sat., 1 to 5 Sunday. \$2.50.

**Lindsborg The World of Willa Cather and Kansas Farm Towns:** art by John Bergers, on display through Sept. 30 at the Forsberg Gallery, 125 N. Main. free.

**Salina Bones, Stones, and Hides:** an exhibit of American Indian artifacts, through Jan. Noon to 5 Tue thru Fri., 10 to 5 Saturdays, 1 to 5 Sundays. Smoky Hill Museum, 211 W. Iron. free.

**Hays Charles Darwin: A Portrait Biography,** through Nov. 30. 9 to 5 Mon. thru Fri., 1 to 5 Sat. and Sun. Sternberg Memorial Museum, Fort Hays State Univ. free.

**Great Bend Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area.** Maybe the most important shorebird migration point in the Western Hemisphere. The sandhill cranes will be coming through before long; meanwhile you may see anything from a pelican to a long-billed dowitcher. For information write Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area, Rt. 3, Box 301, Great Bend KS 67530, or call (316) 793-7730.

**Glen Elder, Cawker City Waconda Lake.** Nearby is the *World's Biggest Ball of Twine.* We didn't ask just what they meant by "biggest." Anyhow, it's sizeable, so I'd take my camera and get a snapshot. A little farther down the road (near Lebanon) is the *Geographical Center of the USA* in a little park with a flag, overlooked by the remains of a failed motel.

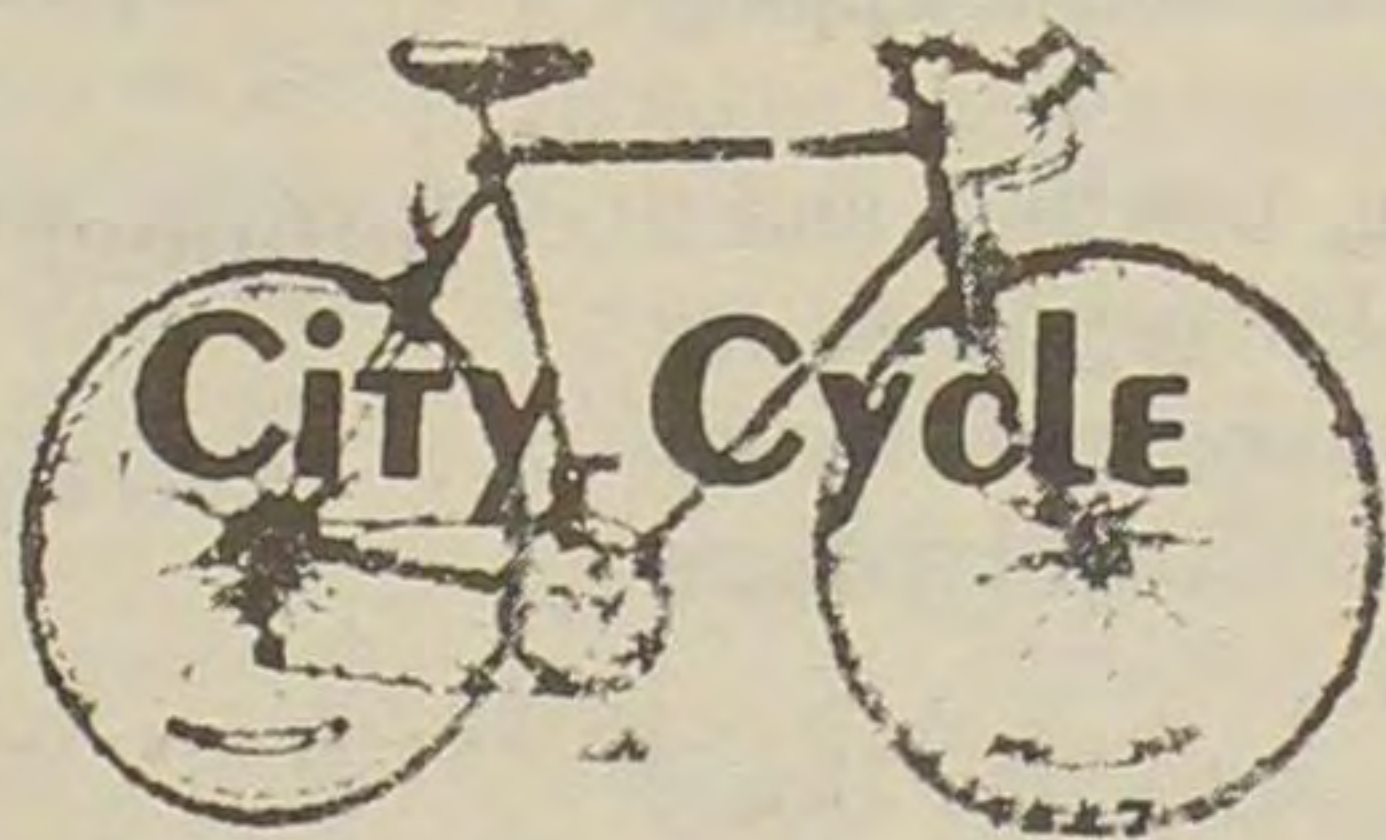


Prof. Wayne Conyers sets up his exhibit at "Art in the Park." What does it all look like from the artist's side of the table?

"I love talking to the people who come: you get to talk about the work with people you know. Going somewhere else and talking to strangers, I don't enjoy that. Here you talk to your friends, you walk around, and the day passes quickly. I need to sell my pots so I can afford to have my paintings framed and pay entry fees and freight charges and buy crates for shipping, and buy insurance. This year sales were good. I came with 14 boxes of pots and went home with just five."

Photo by Rod Samuelson

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